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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 19 January 1971

1. [redacted] - JGO) In response to his earlier call concerning application for employment of [redacted] I told Mr. Jack Mellon, Administrative Assistant to Representative Robert McEwen (R., N. Y.), that [redacted] earlier turndown in August 1968 was due to limitations on the Agency's authority to higher additional personnel at that time. I also told Mr. Mellon that the easiest way for [redacted] to open his application would be to submit a new application updating his qualifications and experience since graduation from college and forward it to the Director of Personnel, CIA, Washington, D. C. 20505.

2. [redacted] - LLM) Robert M. Horner, Chief Investigator, House Committee on Internal Security, called and said that the Committee was interested in obtaining the testimony of [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted]

thanked Horner for the consideration and after checking with the [redacted] advised that the proposed hearing would not cause any problem for us. (Horner said the "Theory and Practice of Communism" hearings which contain the testimony of [redacted] had been printed and he will send us a number of copies for our use.)

3. [redacted] - RCR) In response to his request, sent application forms and brochures to Mr. Rathbun, in the office of Representative William D. Ford (D., Mich.).

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CRC, 2/13/2003

CPYRGHT

Great Stalin's Ghost

By C. L. SULZBERGER

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—European Communists are seriously worried that a "re-Stalinization" drive will be touched off by the Soviet Communist party when it convenes this month at its twenty-fourth Congress. This point has been stressed by Josef Szall, senior ambassador in the Hungarian diplomatic service, who has defected. After a stay in Italy, he is now in the United States.

Szall, who is 49 years old, has been a career diplomat since Communism first took control of Hungary and has served in Peking, Paris, Jakarta and Rome where he was ambassador for years. He decided to defect after returning to Budapest last summer. At the time, he held a position as special adviser to Foreign Minister Janos Peter.

However, he found himself disillusioned by the regime's trend away from earlier liberalization moves and finally decided to escape to the West. Together with his wife and young son he drove from Budapest to Bratislava in Czechoslovakia, from there to Vienna, and eventually back to Rome where he was first granted political asylum.

Szall is certainly the highest-ranking diplomatic defector from the Communist bloc in some years. He is clearly in a position to explain many details concerning both East Europe and the Italian Communist party which, he told authorities in Rome, is seeking eventual participation in a coalition government. With this ultimate goal, the Italian Communist leadership is endeavoring to manipulate sympathetic elements in both the Socialist party

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and the left wing of the Christian Democrats.

One result of this policy has been an expression of Soviet concern. Moscow apparently considers the present Italian Communist leadership insufficiently revolutionary. So much suspicion exists that the Italian party's secretary-general, Luigi Longo, was not informed of the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia until some time after it had actually occurred.

This is but one of several factors that persuaded Szall that Stalin's ghost is again stalking in the person of Brezhnev. The Hungarian, bitter about emergence of Stalinist tendencies in Hungary itself, apparently believes new efforts will be made at the twenty-fourth Moscow Congress to rehabilitate the dictator's reputation and revive at least some of his methods. Furthermore, he feels this will be directly linked to Brezhnev's emergence as undisputed Soviet boss.

One consequence of such an event, he appears to conclude, is that a still harder line will soon manifest itself in the U.S.S.R. and be reflected in East Europe as well as in Western Communist parties. The Italian party is concerned lest Soviet Stalinist tendencies produce a split among its own leaders. This could wreck the careful plan to take over Italy gradually by joining a left-wing coalition cabinet and eventually dominating it.

Because of his long term in Rome, Szall is considered expert on Italian Communist methods and goals. More-

over, he is of course an authority on Hungarian developments. He seems to feel that a Stalin-type "personality cult" is developing around Janos Kadar, the hitherto moderate and relatively liberal party boss.

Szall has reportedly indicated that party secretary Biszku, a Kadar man, is now in full charge of security and defense matters but that another secretary, Komocsin, is actually preparing the groundwork to succeed Kadar. Komocsin is described as a Soviet stooge which, today, means pro-Brezhnev.

How accurate these analyses are is difficult to estimate. My own belief is that there will be a fixed limit to re-Stalinization and that the dictator's role will be far more generously acknowledged than it was in the Khrushchev era but never again magnified to a level with that of Lenin. In the end he is likely to be regarded as a considerable human rather than the superhuman being of his heyday or the subhuman of Khrushchev's period.

Nevertheless, it is obvious that both Budapest and Moscow considered Szall sufficiently important so that they first made strong efforts to bribe him to reconsider his decision and return home.

Later, when he refused, they even attempted to kidnap him with secret police agents stationed actually inside St. Peters, Vatican City, where the defecting diplomat had gone to meet a special envoy sent by Budapest to bargain with him. The attempt was ward off by Italian security agents who had been charged with Szall's protection after he initially sought refuge.

Defector

CPYRGHT

Defector's Act Called Voluntary

By D. E. Ronk

Special to The Washington Post

VIENTIANE, Oct. 5 — An eyewitness has told U.S. officials here that a Russian translator who defected here last month did so of his own free will, according to well-placed American sources here.

The witness' account conflicts sharply with British press reports and Soviet charges concerning the circumstances under which Eugene Sorokin, an interpreter for the Soviet military attache here, defected in mid-September.

The Soviets have said that Sorokin was forced to defect, while the British press has painted the defection as a sort of James Bond episode.

The eyewitness, a British subject who lives in Vientiane, told American authorities that he saw Sorokin's car hit a tree, the sources here say.

Then, according to the account of the witness' report, Sorokin climbed out of his car, approached the Briton's bicycle, and asked in French to be taken to the American embassy.

Sorokin was obviously intoxicated, the witness reportedly said, but unhurt except for a cut on one arm. According to the sources, the Briton was frightened and pedaled away.

Laotian authorities say that Sorokin had had two or three previous automobile accidents while drunk, and had been warned that he would be expelled from the country if these continued.

Sorokin's request for political asylum in the United States is now being considered in Washington, sources here say.